

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/684,634

REMARKS

The Examiner has not indicated whether the drawings filed with the application on October 10, 2000, have been accepted. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge such an acceptance in the next PTO communication.

In the present Amendment, claim 2 has been amended for clarification and to further recite -- through a lid having an opening at least at a central portion and then through an intake--. This amendment is supported by the specification, for example, at page 18, 3rd full paragraph; paragraph bridging pages 21 and 22; page 29, 1st full paragraph; and Fig.4.

Claims 10 and 11 have been canceled.

No new matter has been added, and thus entry of the present Amendment is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 2 and 4-8 will be all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 2 and 4-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are not indefinite. In the Amendment, Applicants have amended independent claim 2 to replace “a step of” with --the steps of--, as suggested by the Examiner, and to further clarify the structural relationship between the intake, the lid and the substrate.

Regarding the language that “an intake ... is narrowed,” Applicants submit that it merely describes the structural features of the intake, but is not a positive step in the method.

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In view of the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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